

## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

### Listing of Claims

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Claims 1-4 (canceled).

5. (new): A communication system comprising:

an exchange; and

a plurality of telephones accommodated in said exchange,

wherein each of said telephones includes:

transfer instruction accept means for accepting a transfer instruction from an operator,

B1 a plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means for accepting a hold instruction and a hold release instruction from said operator, and

a plurality of display means each provided in association with each of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means, each of which accepts the hold instruction and is turned on when a corresponding common hold instruction accept means is operated, and accepts the hold release instruction and is turned off when said communication common hold instruction accept means is operated during a turn-on state thereof,

wherein said exchange includes:

transfer control means for holding a communication partner of one of said telephones under communication and allowing the one of said telephones to request for connection with a forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the transfer

instruction accepted by said transfer instruction accept means in the one of said telephones,

hold control means for holding the forwarding address telephone under communication with the one of said telephones in association with one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means in the one of said telephones and allowing the one of said telephones to request for connection with other forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the hold instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is no associated with a telephone under holding, and

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hold release means for releasing the forwarding address telephone under holding and connecting the forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of said telephones, in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is associated with the forwarding address telephone under holding in the one of said telephones.

6. (new): A communication system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said hold control means holds the other forwarding address telephone under communication with the one of said telephones in association with other one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means in the one of said telephones, in accordance with the hold instruction accepted by the other one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is no associated with a telephone under holding, and

wherein said hold release means releases the other forwarding address telephone under holding and connecting the other forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of said telephones, in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the other one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is associated with the other forwarding address telephone under holding in the one of said telephones.

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7. (new): An exchange for accommodating a plurality of telephones each including transfer instruction accept means for accepting a transfer instruction from an operator, a plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means for accepting a hold instruction and a hold release instruction from said operator, and a plurality of display means each provided in association with each of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means, each of which accepts the hold instruction and is turned on when a communication common hold instruction accept means is operated, and accepts the hold release instruction and is turned off when said communication common hold instruction accept means is operated during a turn-on state thereof, said exchange comprising:

transfer control means for holding a communication partner of one of said telephone under communication and allowing the one of said telephones to request for connection with a forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the transfer instruction accepted by said transfer instruction accept means in the one of said telephones;

hold control means for holding the forwarding address telephone under communication with the one of said telephones in association with one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means in the one of said telephones and allowing the one of said telephones to request for connection with other forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the hold instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is no associated with a telephone under holding; and

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cont hold release means for releasing the forwarding address telephone under holding and connecting the forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of said telephones, in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is associated with the forwarding address telephone under holding in the one of said telephones.

8. (new): A communication hold control method in a communication including an exchange and a plurality of telephones each of which is accommodated in the exchange and has a hold function, said communication hold control method comprising:

a first step of holding a communication partner of a telephone under communication and allowing said telephone to request for connection with a forwarding address telephone, in accordance with a transfer instruction accepted from said telephone under communication;

a second step of holding the forwarding address telephone under communication with said telephone under communication in association with one of a plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means in said telephone and allowing said telephone under communication to request for connection with other forwarding address telephone, in accordance with a hold instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is no associated with a telephone under holding; and

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a third step of releasing the forwarding address telephone under holding and connecting the forwarding address telephone thus released with said telephone under communication, in accordance with a release instruction accepted by the one of said plurality of common hold operation instruction accept means which is associated with the forwarding address telephone under holding in said telephone under communication,

wherein said second step holds the forwarding address telephone under communication by the hold instruction from said telephone under communication, even if said telephone under communication already has the communication partner under holding by the transfer instruction from said telephone under communication.

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